

Message Text

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R 282239Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040735

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: REDUCTIONS IN HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ELEMENTS IN THAILAND

1. SECDEF ON FEBURARY 27 SENT A MEMORANDUM ON REDUCTIONS IN HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ELEMENTS IN THAILAND TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS. WE UNDERSTAND A TEXT OF THIS MEMO HAS BEEN SENT TO GEN MELLEN. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF ITS CONTENTS

2. SECDEFS GOALS FOR THAILAND ARE:

- A. REDUCE MACTHAI/JUSMAGTHAI MANPOWER (EXCLUSIVE OF TRAINING AND LOGISTICS DETACHMENT) BY 30 PERCENT.
- B. REDUCE USARSUPTHAI MANPOWER BY 30 PERCENT AND CONSOLIDATE UNDER MACTHAI.
- C. REDESIGNATE USARSUPTHAI AS THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND THAILAND SUPPORT GROUP, COMMANDED BY AN ARMY COLONEL WHO WILL REPORT TO AND BE UNDER THE COMMAND OF COMUSMACTHAI/JUSMAG.

HE ASKS THAT THESE GOALS BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE END OF FY 74 OR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER.

3. HE ALSO ASKS THAT PLANNING BE UNDERTAKEN TO PHASE DOWN
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AND ELIMINATE USSAG/7AF BY THE END OF FY75.

4. ADDITIONALLY, HE ORDERED A REVIEW OF ALL OTHER DOD ORGANIZATIONS IN THAILAND WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ELIMINATING

ALL BUT THOSE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO SUPPORT US COMBAT FORCES, FOR SIGINT, OR FOR REGIONAL US SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. HE CITED INTELLIGENCE PRESENCE AS A SPECIAL TARGET FOR REDUCTION. HE ASKED THAT THE RESULTS OF THIS REVIEW BE SUBMITTED TO HIM NOT LATER THAN MARCH 15, 1974.

5. FINALLY, HE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN REDRESSING THE COMMAND ALIGNMENT OF MACTHAI/JUSMAG DURING FY 75 TO ASSURE THAT RANK STRUCTURE AND SERVICE AFFILIATIONS ARE IN CONSONANCE WITH US NEEDS IN POST-WAR THAILAND.

6. COPY OF SECDEF MEMORANDUM BEING POUCHED. CASEY

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